good jobs in the country itself. Many of the students having gone abroad do return to India after certain period and either take employment in various sectors or establish their own industries which further provide jobs to fellow Indians. This is a value addition to the country. The Government have also initiated various programmes and schemes to encourage young scientists and technologists. The Government of India also taken steps including increse in science and Technology outlays, creation of new scientific departments/ Organisations, delegation of enhanced administrative and financial powers to science and Technology Institutions etc.

India's Presence in Antarctic Region

1797. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are planning to increase its presence in the Antarctic region; and

(b) if so, what are the future plans to ensure a purposeful presence there?

THE MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOMENT (DR. MURLIMANOHAR JOSHI): (a) No Sir, The Government do not have any plans at present to increase its presence in Antarctica.

(b) The Government will continue to pursue research in line with the national policies and priorities, particularly in the areas of Atmospheric Sciences, Earth Sciences, Human Physiology, Biology, Communication and Engineering, etc., as in the past.

Enquiry into Death of Trainee Fitter in NE Railway

1798. SHRI DAWA LAMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) under what circumstances, Shri Joydeep Das, Trainee Fitter, Mechanical (C & W), Eastern Railway, was electrocuted at Platform No.14 of Howrah Station on 7th October, 1999 leading to his death on 16th October, 1999;

(b) who ordered him to work at platform instead of carriage and workshop; and